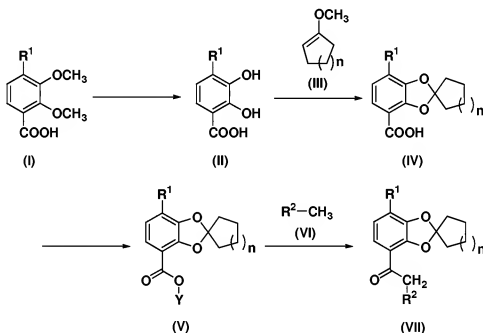


a.) Amendment to the Specification

Please amend the Abstract at page 45 to read as follows:

ABSTRACT

Process for preparing a 1,3-benzodioxole-2-spirocycloalkane derivative according to the steps:



wherein ~~wherein~~ R^1 represents hydroxy or substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxy; R^2 represents ~~an a~~ a substituted or unsubstituted aromatic heterocyclic group or the like; Y represents lower alkyl, lower alkenyl, lower alkynyl, substituted or unsubstituted aralkyl, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, or a substituted or unsubstituted aromatic heterocyclic group; or the like; and n represents an integer of from 1 to 6)

For example, a process for preparing a 1,3-benzodioxole-2-spirocycloalkane derivative represented by the above formula (VII), which comprises adding a base to a mixture containing a compound represented by the above formula (V) and a compound represented by the above formula (VI); and allowing the compound represented by the

above formula (V) to react with the compound represented by the above formula (VI), are provided.